

# Design Policy at WSDOT







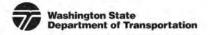
John Donahue, PE, AICP Design Analysis and Policy Manager

Washington State Transportation Commission December 13, 2016



- Practical solutions
- Design policy highlights
- Design process example
- Training support





### **Design Manual**

M 22-01.13

July 2016

Division 1 – General Information

Division 2 - Hearings, Environmental, and Permits

Division 3 - Project Documentation

Division 4 - Surveying

Division 5 - Right of Way and Access Control

Division 6 - Soils and Paving

Division 7 - Structures

Division 8 - Hydraulics

Division 9 - Roadside Development

Division 10 - Traffic Safety Elements

Division 11 - Practical Design

Division 12 - Geometrics

Division 13 - Intersections and Interchanges

Division 14 - HOV and Transit

Division 15 - Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

Division 16 - Roadside Safety Elements

Division 17 - Roadside Facilities

#### **Engineering and Regional Operations**

Development Division, Design Office

### Practical Solutions



- Operations/Demand Management first
- Results that benefit our Transportation System
- Does not compromise safety
- Performance-Based decisions
- Focus on Need and Least Cost Solution
- Emphasizes Community Engagement
- Multidisciplinary/Collaborative decision making



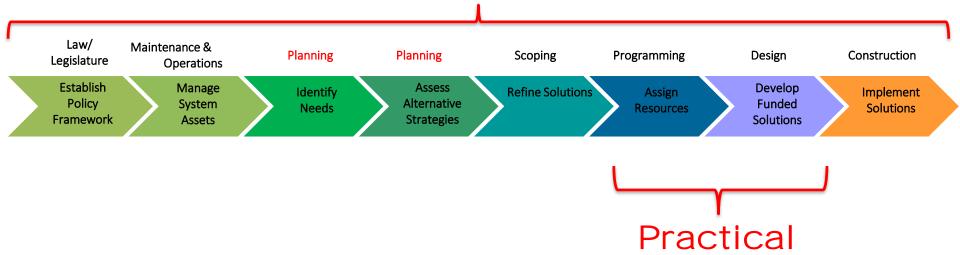


# Practical Solutions



Design

# PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS



Design Matrices



Past practice

<b>∄ Project Type</b>	Main Line								
Design Elements ⇔	Hort zonda! Allgnment	Vertical Alignment	Lane Width	Shoulder Width	Lane Transition	On / Off Connection	Me dian Width	Gross Slope Lane	Gross Slope Shoulder
(3-1) Preventative Maintenance									
Preservation									
Roadway									
(3-2) BST									
(3-3) Milling With HMA Intays								В	
(3-4) HMA 0 vertays								<u>B</u>	<u>B</u>
(3-5) Replace HMA w/PCCP at #8			EU MM	EUM	EU/F			EUM	EU/I
Sitruciture :									
(3-8) Rridge Replacement	F	F		[2]	F	[2]	F <sup>[21]</sup>	P	N N
(3-7) Bridge Deck Rehab.									
mprovements <sup>[16]</sup>									
Mobili ty									
(3-8) Non-Interstate Freeway	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F

New Process Highlights



SITUATION

Understand the

#### **Project Need**

Including the contributing factors

Consider the

Context

Evaluate

**Design Controls** 

Formulate & Evaluate

#### **Alternatives**

That meet the need

New process

Document selection of **Design Elements** 

Document selection of

**Dimensions** 

NOLLUS

New Process Highlights



Understand the
Project Need
Including the
contributing factors

- Establish baseline and contextual needs
- o Develop performance metrics and targets
- Examine contributing factors (root causes)
- Engage the community about needs

# Consider the Context

- Understand the land use context
- Identify the transportation context
- Consider existing and future contexts
- Understand the community design vision
- o Consider the needs of all modes

New Process Highlights



# Evaluate Design Controls

- Design year, Design user(s)
- Modal priorities, target speed
- Consider phased solutions
- Verify access control

Formulate & Evaluate

Alternatives

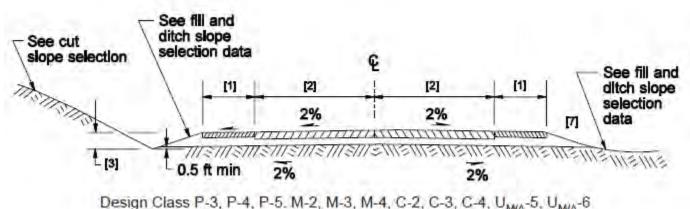
That meet the need

- Use performance metrics to evaluate alternatives
- Document tradeoffs using
   Alternatives Comparison Table

New Process Highlights



# From This . . .



Two-Lane Highway Roadway Sections

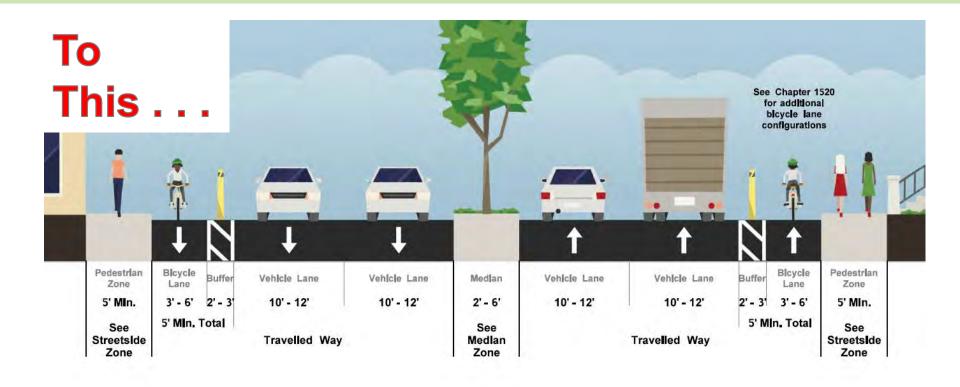
Exhibit 1230-3

Modal priority – motor vehicles

From "WSDOT Design Manual, 2014" http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Publications/Manuals/M22-01.htm

**New Process Highlights** 



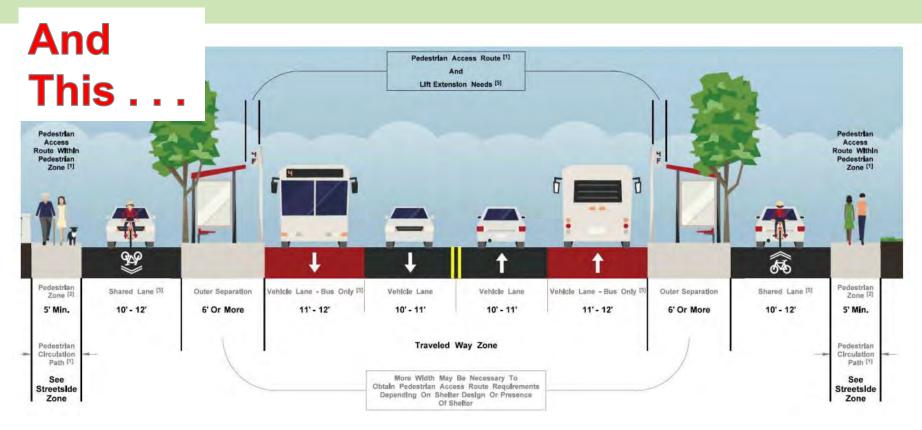


Example - Bicycle Oriented Cross Section

From "WSDOT Design Manual, 2015" http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Publications/Manuals/M22-01.htm

New Process Highlights





### Example – Multimodal Cross Section

From "WSDOT Design Manual, 2015" http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Publications/Manuals/M22-01.htm

Consent-based Decisions



### **Project Team / Steering Committee Roles**

- 1. Project team charters an advisory committee
- 2. Committee includes multiple disciplines and stakeholders
- 3. Decision process consensus / collaborative / other
  - Need Identification
  - Context Identification
  - Design Control Selection
  - Alternative Formulation/Evaluation
  - Performance Trade-off Decisions



Advances in practice



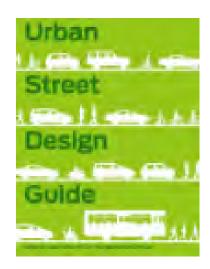
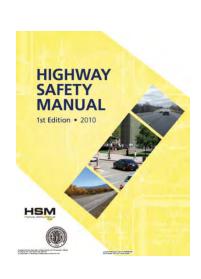




Image credit: "NACTO Urban Street Design Guide", 2014

Advances in practice





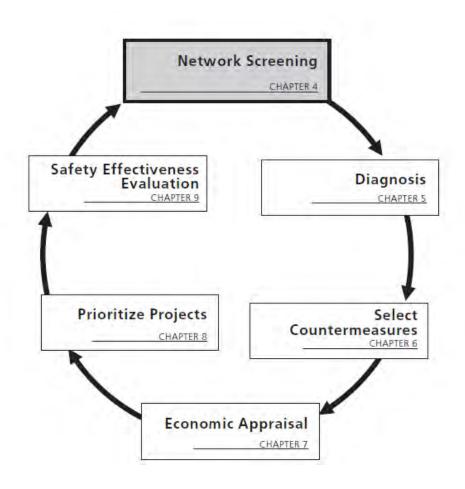
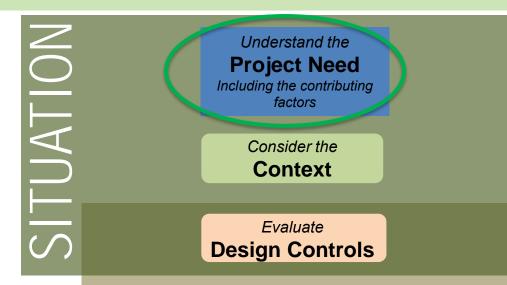


Image credit: "AASHTO Highway Safety Manual", 2010

New Process Highlights





New process

Document selection of Design Elements

Formulate & Evaluate
Alternatives
That meet the need

Document selection of

**Dimensions** 

SOLUTION

### Basis of Design



#### Section 1) Project Needs

**Note for I-2 Safety Projects:** If a Crash Analysis Report already exists, some of the information required in this section may already be covered in the report. See the Bases of Design Instructions for more details.

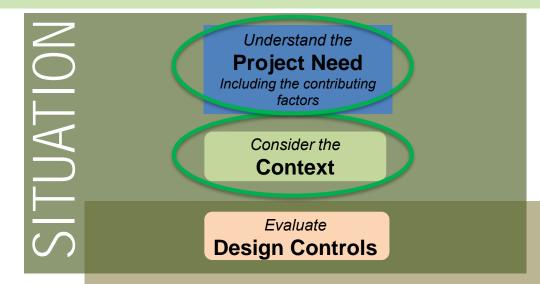
List the project's BASELINE NEED(S). Include the performance metrics that will be used to evaluate alternatives and the performance targets for those metrics. Plane and pave existing HMA to rehabilitate roadway and to reduce the severity of crashes at the beginning of the project where the roadway shoulder width drops below 4' and where existing unrecoverable slopes exist without a barrier.

Metric: Rehabilitate existing HMA and reduce the severity of crashes at the beginning of the project.

Target: Replace existing HMA along with making existing shoulders at the beginning of the project a minimum of 4' in width and install guardrail through the canal/cattle crossing area.

**New Process Highlights** 





New process

Formulate & Evaluate **Alternatives** That meet the need

Document selection of **Design Elements** 

> **Document** selection of

**Dimensions** 

### Basis of Design



#### Section 2) Context

#### Community Engagement

Benton–Franklin Council of Governments (BFCG) along with the City of Kennewick have had several open houses during their normal planning processes discussing alternative transportation needs including public, pedestrian, and cycling. BFCG along with the City of Kennewick are trying to design and plan for "complete streets" where possible to safely open up diverse transportation options for the community.

Basis of Design



#### Section 1) Project Needs

List the project's CONTEXTUAL NEED(S).
Include the performance metrics that will be used to evaluate alternatives. List performance targets for the metrics, if applicable.

Congestion at busy intersections due to lack of turn storage and need of bike lanes identified by the City of Kennewick and SCR Traffic Office.

Metric: Level of Service (LOS)

Target: Improve LOS by lengthening turn pockets at busy intersections and adding bike paths where they can fit within the current roadway prism so bicyclists can safely ride through this area.

New Process Highlights





Understand the

#### **Project Need**

Including the contributing factors

Consider the

Context

Evaluate

**Design Controls** 

Formulate & Evaluate
Alternatives

That meet the need

New process

Document selection of **Design Elements** 

Document selection of

**Dimensions** 

SOLUTION

### Basis of Design



		Section 4) Alternatives Analysis				
	No Build	Leave lane widths as is and do not add bicycle lanes or remove median islands to extend left turn pockets and just plane and pave back distressed HMA leaving all configurations as is.				
A B Alternatives Considered	A	Remove median islands to extend left turn pockets but leave lane width as is and do not add bicycle lanes.				
	В	Remove median islands to extend left turn pockets and drop all lane widths to 11' to accommodate a 5' bike lane NB and SB from Gum St over the cable bridge (397/20) to Ainsworth.				
		Existing roadway width will not accommodate a required minimum 5' bike lane from Gum st to 1st or up onto and over the cable bridge due to lack of existing roadway width and there is not money in our current budget to purchase right of way and add new roadway width to make this addition at this time.				
	С	Remove median islands to extend left turn pockets and drop all lane widths to 11' to accommodate a 5' bike lane NB and SB from 1st to the cable bridge (397/20). Also change lane widths over the cable bridge from 12' to 11' increasing the shoulder width on both sides from 1' to 2' left and from 4' to 5' right in travel direction. This would give more shy distances on both sides while still meeting the WSDOT's requirement of 5' bike lane.				

### Basis of Design



### Section 4) Alternatives Analysis

Option C is the preferred alternative to get the most use out of the existing roadway width and make the area more accessible for all modes of transportation. WSDOT and the City of Kennewick have worked together through the design process of this project to make sure that we were getting the most use out of the existing roadway width and Option C does this. The City of Kennewick is currently trying to design and delineate a comprehensive bicycle path through the city for leisure and transportation purposes and this addition on US 397 will eventually close a gap in their system bringing it to the path along the south side of the Columbia River. The City of Kennewick did request to have the bike lanes go from Gum to Ainsworth, but existing roadway widths could not accommodate this so the city plans on doing some work to bring their bicycle path from 10<sup>th</sup> over to 1<sup>st</sup> to meet up with the new paths SB and NB along US 397. This alternative is the least expensive alternative in accomplishing the City of Kennewick's "complete street" goals, making this corridor more accessible for all modes of transportation by providing bicycle lanes in both directions. It also lengthens some turn lanes that are too short, which are currently causing through conflicts.

#### Section 4 tradeoffs discussion

"WSDOT and the City of Kennewick have worked together through the design process . . . "

"this alternative is the least expensive alternative in accomplishing the City of Kennewick's "complete street goals . . . "

". . . making this corridor more accessible for all modes of transportation . . ."

### Workforce Development



### **Training highlights**

### <u>Current delivery</u>

- Design Manual Update Training
- Practical Solutions Approach to Project Development Overview
- Highway Safety Manual (various levels)
- FHWA CSS Technical Assistance

### In development

- e-learning for Design Manual Update Training
- Design Documentation
- Multimodal Project Development

### Thank You



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### Design Policy Development

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- Kurt Sielbach